

Having thus described the invention, I hereby claim:

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1. A color calibration job identification system comprising:
a printed page on which at least one color target is printed; and,
a patch code printed on the page to provide additional data useful to the color calibration.
 - 5 2. The color calibration job identification system according to claim 1, wherein said patch code comprises:
a first portion including a start code, wherein said start code includes two or more color patches wherein each of said patches have a predefined color; and,
5 a second portion comprising job identification data, wherein said job identification data includes two or more color patches wherein each of said patches is comprised of a color selected from a plurality of colors, each indicative of a unique datum value.
 3. The color calibration job identification system according to claim 2, wherein said start code assists in determining correct functioning of a printer.
 4. The color calibration job identification system according to claim 2, wherein said start code assists in determining an orientation of said printed page in a scanning device.
 5. The color calibration job identification system according to claim 2, wherein said patch code comprises a rectangular array of color patches.
 6. The color calibration job identification system according to claim 5, wherein said patch code includes:
one or more color patches defining a number of rows of said rectangular array; and,
5 one or more color patches defining a number of columns of said rectangular array.
 7. The color calibration job identification system according to claim 2, wherein said patch code includes one or more color patches defining a target type.

8. The color calibration job identification system according to claim 2, wherein said patch code includes one or more color patches specifying the type of marking technology.

10 9. The color calibration job identification system according to claim 2, wherein said patch code includes one or more color patches specifying the type of medium on which the patches are printed.

10. The color calibration job identification system according to claim 1, wherein said patch code includes a plurality of data sub-patch codes including, but not limited to:

5 date by time;
page number; and,
sub ID codes.

11. The color calibration job identification system according to claim 2, wherein said color patches comprise an octal numbering system, and each of said color patches is printed with a color selected from one of eight distinguishable colors such as, but not limited to cyan, magenta, yellow, white, red, green, blue and midgray.

12. The color calibration job identification system according to claim 9, wherein each of said colors exclusively represents an octal digit not less than 0 and not greater than 7.

5 13. The color calibration job identification system according to claim 2, further including a patch code encoding system comprising:
means for converting job identification data into a patch code; and
means for converting the patch code into a sequence of device signals to be sent to the printer.

10 14. The color calibration job identification system according to claim 2, further including a spectrophotometric scanner system which reads said start code, said job identification and said color targets and produces machine readable spectrophotometric scan results including said job identification data and
5 calibration data.

15. The color calibration job identification system according to claim 2, further including a spectrophotometric scanner system which reads said start code, said job identification and said color targets and produces human readable spectrophotometric scan results including said job identification data and calibration data.

16. A method for encoding job identification on a printed page on which at least one color target is printed and for scanning said printed page for said job identification data and said calibration data comprising:

converting job identification information to a patch code;

5 converting the patch code into a sequence of device signals to be sent to the printer;

printing a first portion of a patch code including a start code on said printed page, wherein said start code includes two or more color patches wherein each of said patches is comprised of a predefined color;

10 printing a second portion of a patch code including job identification data wherein said job identification data includes two or more color patches wherein each of said patches is of a color selected from a plurality of colors, each of said colors indicative of a unique datum value;

printing one or more color targets;

15 scanning said printed page with a spectrophotometric scanner system for said start code, said job identification and said color targets; and,

generating spectrophotometric scan results including said job identification data and calibration data.

17. The method as set forth in claim 16, further comprising:

determining correct functioning of a printer by confirming a presence of said start code.

18. The method as set forth in claim 16, further comprising:

determining an orientation of said printed page in said spectrophotometric scanner system by scanning alternate corners of said printed page until a start code is found, and assuming a default orientation if said start code cannot be found.

19. The method as set forth in claim 16, further comprising:

printing said patch code as a rectangular array of color patches including:

printing one or more color patches defining a number of rows of said rectangular array; and,

5 printing one or more color patches defining a number of columns
of said rectangular array.

20. The method as set forth in claim 16, further comprising:
printing job and target identifying data in said job identification, including
at least one of:

5 target type;
date by time;
type of marking technology;
type of medium;
page number; and,
sub ID codes.

21. The method as set forth in claim 16, further, wherein said converting of
patch code into a sequence of device signals comprise an octal numbering system,
and each of said color patches is printed with a color selected from one of eight
distinguishable colors such as, but not limited to cyan, magenta, yellow, white,
5 red, green, blue and midgray.

22. The method as set forth in claim 21, wherein each of said colors
exclusively represents an octal digit not less than 0 and not greater than 7.